IN THE CLAIMS

1.   (Original) A method for performing a business function in an object architecture, comprising:

utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform said business function;

utilizing a reference library for defining data external to the object architecture and supporting said configuration information;

interfacing said at least one process associated with the object architecture with at least one in-memory object; and

utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

2.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the object architecture.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

6.   (Currently Amended) A method for supporting requirements of a business function, comprising:

creating a library of data source configuration objects;

constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

receiving data based on the configuration objects;

decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

interpreting said data source configuration objects;

performing at least one business function on the received data; and

returning ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

7.   (Original) A method for reconciling data in a computing system, comprising:

utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform reconciliation of data;

utilizing a reference library for defining data external to said computing system and supporting said configuration information;

interfacing said at least one process associated with the computing system with at least one in-memory object; and

utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

9.   (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the computing system.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

12. (Original) A method for monitoring data integrity in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of data sources, comprising:

analyzing data from said plurality of data sources;

configuring the computing system to support data reconciliation for said data, said configuring based on the data analysis; and

reconciling data from said plurality of data sources, said reconciling dependent on information obtained during said configuring.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein said configuring comprises:

defining data characteristics for said plurality of data sources, said characteristics allowing identification and interpretation of said data;

creating at least one data integrity control in accordance with said analysis; and

configuring said at least one data integrity control, wherein said configuring determines the data sources containing said data, matches said data between said plurality of data sources, and compares individual data elements of the matched data.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said reconciling comprises:

obtaining data from said plurality of data sources for said at least one data integrity control; and

decomposing, matching, and identifying inconsistencies in said data by

utilizing said data characteristics, said data integrity control, and at least one system process to

obtain data reconciliation analysis for said data.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 14, further comprising:

determining corrective instructions for said data reconciliation analysis;

and

utilizing information related to said corrective instructions.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein said configuring comprises:

configuring said at least one data integrity control for storing at least one

field of an identifier for linking data records in the system to related data records in said plurality

of data sources; and

configuring said at least one data integrity control for updating said

information in said plurality of data sources.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said utilizing comprises:

transmitting said information back to one of said plurality of data sources.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein said utilizing comprises:

transmitting said information back to an individual.

19.   (Currently Amended) A computing device comprising a computer readable medium

having computer readable code means embodied therein for supporting the process requirements

for data reconciliation, said computing device further comprising:

means for creating a library of data source configuration objects;

means for constructing a plurality of flexible business function

management objects;

means for receiving data based on the configuration objects;

means for decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

means for interpreting said data source configuration objects;

means for performing at least one business function on the received data;

and

means for returning the results of the processed informationfor that data.

20.   (Original) A system for performing a business function in an object architecture,

comprising:

a.   a memory unit; and

b.   a processing unit disposed in communication with said memory unit, said

processing unit configured to:

utilize configuration information for directing at least one process to

perform said business function;

utilize a reference library for defining data external to the object

architecture and supporting said configuration information;

interface said at least one process associated with the object architecture

with at least one in-memory object; and

utilize at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by

said at least one process.

21.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 20, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

22.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 21, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the object architecture.

23.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 22, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

24.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 23, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

25.   (Original) A system for reconciling data in a computing system, comprising:

        a.   a memory unit; and

        b.   a processing unit disposed in communication with said memory unit, said processing unit configured to:

        utilize configuration information for directing at least one process to perform reconciliation of data;

        utilize a reference library for defining data external to said computing system and supporting said configuration information;

        interface said at least one process associated with the computing system with at least one in-memory object; and

        utilize at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

26.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 25, wherein said reference library comprises

at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

27.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 26, wherein said reference library comprises

at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the

computing system.

28.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 27, wherein said business process

configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition

object.

29.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 28, wherein said data definition object is

created by specifying source information for said data.

30.   (Original) A system for monitoring data integrity in a computing system, the computing

system having a plurality of data sources, comprising:

        a.   a memory unit; and

        b.   a processing unit disposed in communication with said memory unit, said

processing unit configured to:

            analyze data from said plurality of data sources;

            configure the computing system to support data reconciliation for said

data, said configuring based on the data analysis; and

            reconcile data from said plurality of data sources, said reconciling

dependent on information obtained during said configuring.

31.   (Original) The system of claim 30, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

define data characteristics for said plurality of data sources, said

characteristics allowing identification and interpretation of said data;

create at least one data integrity control in accordance with said analysis;

and

configure said at least one data integrity control, wherein said configuring

determines the data sources containing said data, matches said data between said plurality of data

sources, and compares individual data elements of the matched data.

32.   (Original) The system of claim 31, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

obtain data from said plurality of data sources for said at least one data

integrity control; and

decompose, match, and identify inconsistencies in said data by utilizing

said data characteristics, said data integrity control, and at least one system process to obtain data

reconciliation analysis for said data.

33.   (Original) The system of claim 32, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

determine corrective instructions for said data reconciliation analysis; and

utilize information related to said corrective instructions.

34.   (Original) The system of claim 33, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

configure said at least one data integrity control for storing at least one

field of an identifier for linking data records in the system to related data records in said plurality

of data sources; and

configure said at least one data integrity control for updating said

information in said plurality of data sources.

35.   (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

transmit said information back to one of said plurality of data sources.

36.   (Original) The system of claim 34, wherein said processing unit is further configured to:

transmit said information back to an individual.

37.   (Original) A system for performing a business function in an object architecture,

comprising:

means for utilizing configuration information for directing at least one

process to perform said business function;

means for utilizing a reference library for defining data external to the

object architecture and supporting said configuration information;

means for interfacing said at least one process associated with the object

architecture with at least one in-memory object; and

means for utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data

affected by said at least one process.

38.   (Original) The system of claim 37, wherein said reference library comprises at least one

business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

39.   (Original) The system of claim 38, wherein said reference library comprises at least one

data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the object architecture.

40.   (Original) The system of claim 39, wherein said business process configuration object

directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

41.   (Original) The system of claim 40, wherein said data definition object is created by

specifying source information for said data.

42.   (Original) A system for reconciling data in a computing system, comprising:

means for utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform reconciliation of data;

means for utilizing a reference library for defining data external to said computing system and supporting said configuration information;

means for interfacing said at least one process associated with the computing system with at least one in-memory object; and

means for utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

43.   (Original) The system of claim 42, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

44.   (Original) The system of claim 43, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the computing system.

45.   (Original) The system of claim 44, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

46.   (Original) The system of claim 45, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

47.   (Original) A system for monitoring data integrity in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of data sources, comprising:

means for analyzing data from said plurality of data sources;

means for configuring the computing system to support data reconciliation for said data, said configuring based on the data analysis; and

means for reconciling data from said plurality of data sources, said reconciling dependent on information obtained during said configuring.

48.   (Original) The system of claim 47, wherein said means for configuring the computing system comprises:

means for defining data characteristics for said plurality of data sources, said characteristics allowing identification and interpretation of said data;

means for creating at least one data integrity control in accordance with said analysis; and

means for configuring said at least one data integrity control, wherein said configuring determines the data sources containing said data, matches said data between said plurality of data sources, and compares individual data elements of the matched data.

49.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 48, wherein means for reconciling data comprises:

means for obtaining data from said plurality of data sources for said at least one data integrity control; and

means for decomposing, matching, and identifying inconsistencies in said data by utilizing said data characteristics, said data integrity control, and at least one system process to obtain data reconciliation analysis for said data.

50.   (Previously amended) The system of claim 49, further comprising:

means for determining corrective instructions for said data reconciliation analysis; and

means for utilizing information related to said corrective instructions.

51.   (Original) The system of claim 50, wherein said means for configuring the computing system further comprises:

means for configuring said at least one data integrity control for storing at least one field of an identifier for linking data records in the system to related data records in said plurality of data sources; and

means for configuring said at least one data integrity control for updating said information in said plurality of data sources.

52.   (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said means for utilizing comprises:

means for transmitting said information back to one of said plurality of data sources.

53.   (Original) The system of claim 51, wherein said means for utilizing comprises:

means for transmitting said information back to an individual.

54.   (Original) A computer device comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for performing a business function in an object architecture, said computer readable code means further comprising:

means for utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform said business function;

means for utilizing a reference library for defining data external to the object architecture and supporting said configuration information;

means for interfacing said at least one process associated with the object architecture with at least one in-memory object; and

means for utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

55.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 54, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

56.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 55, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the object architecture.

57.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 56, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

58.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 57, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

59.   (Original) A computer device comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for reconciling data in a computing system, said computer readable code means further comprising:

means for utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform reconciliation of data;

means for utilizing a reference library for defining data external to said computing system and supporting said configuration information;

means for interfacing said at least one process associated with the computing system with at least one in-memory object; and

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means for utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by said at least one process.

60. (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 59, wherein said reference library comprises at least one business process configuration object for managing said configuration information.

61. (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 60, wherein said reference library comprises at least one data definition object for managing the definition of the data external to the computing system.

62. (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 61, wherein said business process configuration object directs said at least one process in conjunction with said data definition object.

63. (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 62, wherein said data definition object is created by specifying source information for said data.

64. (Original) A computer device comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for monitoring data integrity in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of data sources, said computer readable code means further comprising:

means for analyzing data from said plurality of data sources;

means for configuring the computing system to support data reconciliation for said data, said configuring based on the data analysis; and

means for reconciling data from said plurality of data sources, said reconciling dependent on information obtained during said configuring.

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65.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 64, wherein said means for configuring the computing system comprises:

means for defining data characteristics for said plurality of data sources, said characteristics allowing identification and interpretation of said data;

means for creating at least one data integrity control in accordance with said analysis; and

means for configuring said at least one data integrity control, wherein said configuring determines the data sources containing said data, matches said data between said plurality of data sources, and compares individual data elements of the matched data.

66.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 65, wherein means for reconciling data comprises:

means for obtaining data from said plurality of data sources for said at least one data integrity control; and

means for decomposing, matching, and identifying inconsistencies in said data by utilizing said data characteristics, said data integrity control, and at least one system process to obtain data reconciliation analysis for said data.

67.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 66, further comprising:

means for determining corrective instructions for said data reconciliation analysis; and

means for utilizing information related to said corrective instructions.

68.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 67, wherein said means for

configuring the computing system further comprises:

        means for configuring said at least one data integrity control for storing at

least one field of an identifier for linking data records in the system to related data records in said

plurality of data sources; and

        means for configuring said at least one data integrity control for updating

said information in said plurality of data sources.

69.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 68, wherein said means for

utilizing comprises:

        means for transmitting said information back to one of said plurality of

data sources.

70.   (Original) The computer readable code means of claim 68, wherein said means for

utilizing comprises:

        means for transmitting said information back to an individual.

71.   (Currently Amended) A system for supporting requirements of a business function,

comprising:

        a.   a memory unit; and

        b.   a processing unit disposed in communication with said memory unit, said

processing unit configured to:

        create a library of data source configuration objects;

        construct a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

receive data based on the configuration objects;

decompose said data based on the configuration objects;

interpret said data source configuration objects;

perform at least one business function on the received data; and

return ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

72. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting requirements of a business function, comprising:

means for creating a library of data source configuration objects;

means for constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

means for receiving data based on the configuration objects;

means for decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

means for interpreting said data source configuration objects;

means for performing at least one business function on the received data; and

means for returning ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

73. (Currently Amended) A computer device comprising a computer readable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for supporting requirements of a business function, said computer readable code means further comprising:

means for creating a library of data source configuration objects;

means for constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

means for receiving data based on the configuration objects;

means for decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

means for interpreting said data source configuration objects;

means for performing at least one business function on the received data;

and

means for returning ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

74.   (Currently Amended) A method for supporting the process requirements for data

reconciliation, comprising:

creating a library of data source configuration objects;

constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

receiving data based on the configuration objects;

decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

interpreting said data source configuration objects;

performing at least one business function on the received data; and

returning ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

75.   (Currently Amended) A system for supporting the process requirements for data

reconciliation, comprising:

a.   a memory unit; and

b.   a processing unit disposed in communication with said memory unit, said

processing unit configured to:

construct a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

receive data based on the configuration objects;

decompose said data based on the configuration objects;

interpret said data source configuration objects;

perform at least one business function on the received data; and

return ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

76. (Currently Amended) A system for supporting the process requirements for data reconciliation, comprising:

means for creating a library of data source configuration objects;

means for constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

means for receiving data based on the configuration objects;

means for decomposing said data based on the configuration objects;

means for interpreting said data source configuration objects;

means for performing at least one business function on the received data; and

means for returning ~~the~~ results ~~of the processed information~~ for that data.

77. (Previously presented) A method for processing data in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of data sources, comprising:

configuring the computing system to support data processing for said data; and

processing data from said plurality of data sources, said processing based on at least one known property of said data, said processing dependent on information obtained during said configuring,

wherein said processing comprises combining related data from said plurality of data sources.

78.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising monitoring consistency of said related data being processed, said monitoring based on said at least one known property of said data.

79.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 78, further comprising correcting at least one inconsistency between said related data.

80.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising managing consistency of said related data being processed, said managing based on said at least one known property of said data.

81.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising identifying at least one inconsistency between said related data from said plurality of data sources.

82.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 81, further comprising highlighting said at least one inconsistency between said related data.

83.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 81, further comprising reporting said at least one inconsistency between said related data.

84.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising reporting results of said processing.

85.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising recognizing an inconsistency between said related data and retrieving at least one corrective instruction, said corrective instruction capable of correcting said inconsistency.

86. (Previously presented) The method of claim 85, further comprising utilizing said at least one corrective instruction for correcting said at least one inconsistency among said related data.

87. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, wherein said computing system stores at least one corrective instruction for said related data, said corrective instruction capable of correcting at least one inconsistency among said related data.

88. (Previously presented) The method of claim 87, further comprising transmitting said at least one corrective instruction for said related data.

89. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising utilizing at least one corrective instruction for said related data, said corrective instruction removing at least one inconsistency among said related data.

90. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising identifying at least one consistency between said related data from said plurality of data sources.

91. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90, further comprising highlighting said at least one consistency between said related data.

92. (Previously presented) The method of claim 90, further comprising reporting said at least one consistency between said related data.

93. (Previously presented) The method of claim 77, further comprising providing a single view of said related data from said plurality of data sources, said single view enabling effective management of business information represented by said related data.

94. (Previously presented) The method of claim 93, wherein said single view may be adjusted to accommodate viewing of a smaller subsection of said related data.

95.   (Previously presented) A system for processing data in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of data sources, comprising:

means for configuring the computing system to support data processing for said data; and

means for processing data from said plurality of data sources based on at least one known property of said data, said processing dependent on information obtained during configuring of said computing system,

wherein said means for processing comprises means for combining related data from said plurality of data sources.

96.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for monitoring consistency of said related data being processed, wherein said monitoring is based on said at least one known property of said data.

97.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 96, further comprising means for correcting at least one inconsistency between said related data.

98.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for managing consistency of said related data being processed, said managing based on said at least one known property of said data.

99.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for identifying at least one inconsistency between said related data from said plurality of data sources.

100.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 99, further comprising means for highlighting said at least one inconsistency between said related data.

101.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 99, further comprising means for reporting said at least one inconsistency between said related data.

102.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for reporting results of said processing.

103.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for recognizing an inconsistency between said related data and retrieving at least one corrective instruction, said corrective instruction capable of correcting said inconsistency.

104.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 103, further comprising means for utilizing said at least one corrective instruction for correcting said at least one inconsistency among said related data.

105.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, wherein said computing system stores at least one corrective instruction for said related data, said corrective instruction capable of correcting at least one inconsistency among said related data.

106.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 105, further comprising means for transmitting said at least one corrective instruction for said related data.

107.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for utilizing at least one corrective instruction for said related data, said corrective instruction removing at least one inconsistency among said related data.

108.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for identifying at least one consistency between said related data from said plurality of data sources.

109.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 108, further comprising means for highlighting said at least one consistency between said related data.

110.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 108, further comprising means for reporting said at least one consistency between said related data.

111.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 95, further comprising means for providing a single view of said related data from said plurality of data sources, said single view enabling effective management of business information represented by said related data.

112.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 111, wherein said single view may be adjusted to accommodate viewing of a smaller subsection of said related data.

113.   (New) A method for performing a business function in an object-oriented architecture, comprising:

    utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform the business function;

    utilizing a reference library for defining data external to the object architecture and supporting the configuration information;

    interfacing the at least one process associated with the object-oriented architecture with at least one in-memory object; and

    utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by the at least one process.

114.   (New) A method for supporting requirements of a business function, comprising:

    creating an object-oriented library of stored data targets configuration objects;

constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

receiving data based on the configuration objects;

decomposing the data based on the configuration objects;

generating a match key string from field element selections from the configuration objects;

matching the data based on the match key string;

reconciling the matched data based on the configuration objects;

interpreting the stored data targets configuration objects;

performing at least one business function on the received data; and

returning results for that data.

115. (New) A method for reconciling data in a computing system, comprising:

utilizing configuration information for directing at least one process to perform data reconciliation,

wherein data reconciliation, includes:

decomposing data from a plurality of stored data targets based on the configuration information;

generating a match key string from field element selections from the configuration information;

matching the data based on the match key string;

reconciling the matched data based on the configuration information;

utilizing an object-oriented reference library for defining data external to the computing system and supporting the configuration information;

interfacing the at least one process associated with the computing system with at least one in-memory object; and

utilizing at least one data storage object for preserving the data affected by the at least one process.

116. (New) A method for monitoring data integrity in a computing system, the computing system having a plurality of stored data targets, comprising:

analyzing data from the plurality of stored data targets;

decomposing data from the plurality of stored data targets;

configuring the computing system to support data reconciliation for the data, the configuration based on the data analysis; and

generating a match key string from field element selections from the configuration;

matching the data based on the match key string;

reconciling data from the plurality of stored data targets, wherein the reconciling is dependent on information obtained during the configuration and the matched data.

117. (New) A method for supporting the process requirements for data reconciliation, comprising:

creating an object-oriented library of stored data target configuration objects;

constructing a plurality of flexible business function management objects;

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receiving data based on the configuration objects;

decomposing the data based on the configuration objects;

generating a match key string from field element selections from the

configuration objects;

matching the data based on the match key string;

reconciling the matched data based on the configuration objects;

interpreting the stored data target configuration objects;

performing at least one business function on the reconciled data; and

returning results for that data.